

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2959 without my signature.

Existing law allows any voter to request a recount of an election, but protects against abuse by requiring the requesting party to pay a refundable deposit to cover the cost of the recount. This bill would require an elections official to provide the requesting party a daily, itemized estimate of the costs of the recount.

This bill imposes an unnecessary mandate on elections officials. Recounts are requested in a scant few elections and the proponents have failed to demonstrate any abuse on the part of elections officials estimating recount costs. Further, the bill potentially imposes a reimbursable state mandate of unknown costs.

For these reasons, I am returning the bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger